

# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that the Oneida County Sheriff's Department received \$34,897.32 and the Vilas County Sheriff's Department received \$11,632.44 as forfeiture proceeds from property seized in 2007 from Huan Nguyen, 27, of Minneapolis, Minn.

From February 2004 until January 2006, Nguyen conspired with Darryl Chapman, Lac du Flambeau, to possess and to distribute marijuana and cocaine in Oneida County and Vilas County. Using an informant, officers from the Oneida County Sheriff's Department were able to purchase marijuana and cocaine from Chapman on December 21, 2005. Officers also seized approximately one-quarter kilogram of marijuana from Chapman's residence on January 3, 2006. When arrested, , Chapman admitted that Nguyen was the source of the drugs.

On January 12, 2006, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at Nguyen's residence in Minneapolis and found approximately one kilogram of marijuana, \$116,780 in cash, digital scales, and packaging materials. Following the sentencing, the \$116,780 was forfeited to the United States.

The \$116,780 was distributed to the Sheriffs' Departments for both Vilas and Oneida Counties, along with the Drug Enforcement Administration and law

enforcement agencies in Minnesota, pursuant to a federal program for equitably sharing forfeited assets. Agencies that participate in an investigation leading to the seizure of assets by the United States may request a share of the forfeited property. The funds received by the Oneida and Vilas County Sheriffs' Departments must be used for a law enforcement purpose and must not be used to replace or supplant the resources of the departments.

United States Attorney Peterson praised Oneida County Sheriff Jeffrey Hoffman and his deputies as well as Vilas County Sheriff John A. Niebuhr and his deputies and the investigators with the Northcentral Drug Enforcement Group (NORDEG) for their excellent cooperation.

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